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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service,
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Western Wireless Corp. ("Western Wireless"), an *ex parte* presentation was made today to Matthew Brill, senior legal advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, regarding the "definition of universal service" proceeding. Participants on behalf of Western Wireless included Mark Rubin, Director of Federal Government Affairs of Western Wireless Corp., and the undersigned.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Sieradzki
Counsel for Western Wireless Corp.

cc: Matthew Brill

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